

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

FACT SHEET

**AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW METROPOLITAN AND PATTON
STATE HOSPITALS PATIENT/CLIENT
TRANSPORTATION SUPPORT SERVICES AGREEMENTS
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request approval to renew Metropolitan and Patton state hospitals services agreements to provide patient/client transportation support services to mentally ill patients for legal proceedings at courts.

REQUEST

Authorize the Director of Mental Health (Director) for the renewal of Metropolitan State Hospital (Metropolitan) and Patton State Hospital (Patton) patient/client transportation support services agreements for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14. The annual contract amount is \$220,000 for Metropolitan and \$89,800 for Patton, respectively. The total estimated amount for the two agreements for three years is \$929,400, fully funded by County General Funds.

Delegate authority to the Director to execute future amendments with increases up to 20% of Board approved annual amount in compliance with required prior County Counsel approval and timely Board and Chief Executive Office (CEO) notifications.

Also authorize the Director to execute future Agreements with other qualified state hospital patient/client transportation support services providers provided that the Board has appropriated sufficient funds and prior approval of County Counsel is obtained and the Department notifies the Board and the CEO in writing within 30 days.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION

Metropolitan and Patton's existing patient/client transportation support services Agreements will expire on June 30, 2011. Board approval of the recommended actions will continue the needed services to the mentally ill patients without interruptions. These patients may be identified as extremely dangerous and serious Absent Without Leave (AWOL) risks. The services are necessary to ensure the safety of the patients transported and the Los Angeles County community where the trips are made.

CONTRACTORS

Metropolitan and Patton have been providing transportation support services to mentally ill hospital patients who are Lanterman-Petris-Short conservatees (LPS) of Los Angeles County. These LPS patients are judicially committed to hospitals under California Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 4017, 5602 and 5652.5. Such patients are periodically required to appear at various Los Angeles courts for legal proceedings. In some cases, these patients are identified as extremely dangerous and serious AWOL risks. Metropolitan and Patton have the necessary personnel, facilities and vehicles to adequately provide the needed services to ensure the safety of the patients during the trips and the safety of the community where the trips are made.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The County has existing Agreements with the two state hospitals which will expire on June 30, 2011. The renewals are requested due to the continuing need for the unique and specialized services.

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